executing schemes and incurring expenditure on works with reference to needs and requirements and relative degree of urgency thereof."

Second Language Test for Non-Gazetted Officers.

* 150 Q.—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Non-Gazetted Officers whose mother-tongue is Malayalam, are compelled to pass the Second Language Test in Tamil or Telugu;

(b) whether the Non-Gazetted Officers whose mother-tongue is Tamil or Telugu, are also required to pass the Second Language Test in Malayalam;

(c) if not, the reason for the discrimination;

(d) whether the promotions of Malayalee clerks in any department of the Government have been withheld on the ground that the Second Language Test in Tamil or Telugu has not been passed; and

(e) if so, in how many cases?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" (a) Yes, Sir. N.G.Os. whose mother-tongue is Malayalam are required to pass the Second Language Test in Tamil or Telugu in certain services recruitment to which is made on a State-wide basis.

" (b) Till now the N.G.Os. whose mother-tongue is either Tamil or Telugu are not required to pass the Language Test in Malayalam but are required to pass the test in any of the languages, viz., Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada and Hindustani, other than their mother-tongue.

" (c) The reason for the rule was that Tamil and Telugu formed the spoken language of a large part of the composite State, and in the case of recruitment to posts on State-wide basis candidates were liable to transfer from one part of the State to the other. It was therefore thought necessary that they should know at least one of the two principal languages of the State as it was before the Andhra partition. Now that the Andhra State has been formed, it is considered that a pass in the language test in Telugu need not be made compulsory. Government are considering amendment of the Service Rules so as to require those whose language is Tamil to pass a test in some one of the other languages, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada or Hindustani and to require those whose language is other than Tamil, to pass the test in Tamil.

" (d) & (e) There is no handy information."